

**Probation Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana**

**Minutes
October 27, 2006**

The Probation Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met at the Indiana Judicial Center in Indianapolis, Indiana on October 27, 2006.

1. **Members present.** The following members of the Probation Committee were present: Rosemary Higgins-Burke, David Chidester, Thomas Felts, Robert Mrzlack, and Mark Stoner, chair.
2. **Staff present.** Jane Seigel, Jenny Bauer, Bob Champion and Michelle Goodman provided staff assistance to the Committee.
3. **Approval of minutes.** The minutes from July 14, 2006 were approved with revisions.
4. **Report from September Board of Directors meeting.** Judge Stoner reported that the Judicial Conference Board of Directors approved the Committee's recommended policy on "de-certification" of probation officers with regard to failure to obtain continuing education hours and falsifying/misrepresenting information in the application process. He also distributed a copy of the approved policy.
5. **Probation conditions for sex offenders.** Jenny Bauer reported that several new laws enacted during the 2006 legislative session affect the Recommended Special Probation Conditions for Adult Sex Offenders. She outlined the additions and changes that need to be made to the Special Conditions. The committee decided to remove several of the conditions and put them into a separate document of general sex offender restrictions. Judge Stoner stated that he would present the revisions to the Board of Directors at its December meeting.
6. **Risk Assessment project update.** Michelle Goodman reported that the Risk Assessment Task Force met with NIC consultant Brad Bogue in October to discuss risk assessment instruments and validity of the instruments. The Task Force is still considering its options and plans to meet again in December.
7. **Regional Meetings for Probation Officers.** Bob Champion reported that the 2006 Regional Meetings for probation officers are scheduled for November 1 in Valparaiso; November 2 in Ft. Wayne; November 15 in Anderson; November 16 in Columbus; and November 17 in Jasper. The topics for the regional meetings are an introduction to evidence-based practices and an update on new sex offender laws. Mr. Champion invited the committee members to attend the regional meetings and address the probation officers during lunch.
8. **Salary and Intrastate Transfer Issues.** Judge Stoner reported informed the committee that he would like to divide the committee members into 2 working

groups on the issues of probation officer salaries and intrastate transfer. Judge Stoner asked the working groups to meet between the committee's quarterly meetings. He will contact individual committee members to set up membership on each group. Judge Stoner requested that the intrastate group review the issue of fee collection and a statutory fee for transfers. He also would like to see more research on whether probation terms can be run consecutively.

9. **Salary Survey Report.** Michelle Goodman reported she has preliminary results from the salary survey. She explained that the purpose of the survey was to compare current salary amounts to the salaries reported in 2001 to see if the administrative fee is covering the increases. She distributed a handout with the preliminary results and stated that she planned to give a final report on the survey at the January meeting.
10. **Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Probation Committee is scheduled for January 19, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bauer
Staff Attorney
Indiana Judicial Center